Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/054,355	NGUY ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Natalia Figueroa	2651	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to *RCE filed 14 November 2005*.

2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are *4-8,13-17,22-25 and 47-102*.

3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
   a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
      1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
      2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____ .
      3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

   * Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.

5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
   (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
      1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
   (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

   Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).

6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____ .
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Allowable Subject Matter

1. Claims 4-8, 13-17, 22-25 and 47-102 are allowed.

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

RE claims 4-7, the prior art of record, and in particular Maddox (USPN 3,895,270), fails to teach or suggest a method of demagnetizing magnetic media comprising the steps of placing the magnetic media in a magnetic field at a first strength level wherein the magnetic field is substantially perpendicular to the magnetic media and the first strength level is based on the magnetic coercivity of the magnetic media; and gradually reducing the magnetic field to a second strength level by multiple stepwise decrements, to essentially eliminate net magnetization in the magnetic media; wherein the magnitude of each decrement is based on the magnetic coercivity of the magnetic media and the second strength level is substantially zero.

RE claims 13 and 16, the prior art of record, and in particular Maddox (USPN 3,895,270), fails to teach or suggest gradually reducing the magnetic field to a second strength level by multiple stepwise decrements, to essentially eliminate net magnetization in the disk, wherein the stepwise decrements are separated by predetermined time periods, and the duration of each time period is based on the speed of rotation of the disk.

RE claims 14 and 22, the prior art of record, and in particular Maddox (USPN 3,895,270), fails to teach or suggest a controller for selectively providing electrical power to the electromagnet to generate magnetic fields at different strength levels, wherein the controller is configured to gradually reduce electrical power to the electromagnet from a first power level to a second power level, to reduce the magnetic field from a first strength level to a second strength

level by multiple stepwise decrements, to essentially eliminate net magnetization in the disk, wherein the stepwise decrements are separated by predetermined time periods and the duration of each time period is longer than the duration of a revolution of the disk.

RE claim 15, the prior art of record, and in particular Maddox (USPN 3,895,270), fails to teach or suggest gradually reducing the magnetic field to a second strength level by multiple stepwise decrements, to essentially eliminate net magnetization in the disk, wherein the magnitude of each decrement is based on the magnetic coercivity of the disk.

RE claims 23-25, the prior art of record, and in particular Maddox (USPN 3,895,270), fails to teach or suggest a controller for selectively providing electrical power to the electromagnet to generate magnetic fields at different strength levels, wherein the controller is configured to gradually reduce electrical power to the electromagnet from a first power level to a second power level, to reduce the magnetic field from a first strength level to a second strength level by multiple stepwise decrements, to essentially eliminate net magnetization in the disk, wherein the stepwise decrements are separated by predetermined time periods, the duration of each time period is longer than the duration of a revolution of the disk and the magnitude of each decrement is based on the magnetic coercivity of the disk.

RE claim 47, the prior art of record, and in particular Maddox (USPN 3,895,270), fails to teach or suggest a method of demagnetizing a magnetic data disk comprising the step of gradually reducing the magnetic field to a second strength level to essentially eliminate net magnetization in the magnetic media; wherein at least one of the first and second strength levels is based on the magnetic coercivity of the magnetic media.

RE claim 49, the prior art of record, and in particular Maddox (USPN 3,895,270), fails to teach or suggest a method of demagnetizing a magnetic data disk comprising the step of gradually reducing the magnetic field to a second strength level to essentially eliminate net magnetization in the disk; wherein at least one of the first and second strength levels is based on the magnetic coercivity of the disk.

RE claim 51, the prior art of record, and in particular Maddox (USPN 3,895,270), fails to teach or suggest an apparatus for demagnetizing magnetic media comprising a controller for selectively providing electrical power to the electromagnet to generate the magnetic field at different strength levels, wherein the controller gradually reduces the electrical power from a first power level to a second power level, to reduce the magnetic field from a first strength level to a second strength level, to essentially eliminate net magnetization in the magnetic media; wherein at least one of the first and second strength levels is based on the magnetic coercivity of the magnetic media.

RE claim 53, the prior art of record, and in particular Maddox (USPN 3,895,270), fails to teach or suggest a method comprising the step of reducing the magnetic field from the first strength level to a second strength level while rotating the disk to essentially eliminate net magnetization in a recording area of the disk, wherein the rate of reducing the magnetic field is based on the rotational speed of the disk.

RE claim 83, the prior art of record, and in particular Maddox (USPN 3,895,270), fails to teach or suggest a method comprising the step of reducing the magnetic field from the first strength level to a second strength level while rotating the disk to essentially eliminate net magnetization in a recording area of the disk, wherein the magnetic field is substantially

perpendicular to the disk and provides an AC erase for the recording area of the disk and the rate of reducing the magnetic field is based on the rotational speed of the disk.

3. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Natalia Figueroa whose telephone number is (571) 272-7554. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Thursday 8:00-4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David R. Hudspeth can be reached on (571) 272-7843. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

NFM

DAVID HUDSPETH
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